

THE SAGA OF
DARREN SHAN
TUNNELS OF BLOOD

VOLUME
3

*Story: Darren Shan
Manga: Takahiro Arai*

A SUMMARY OF CIRQUE DU FREAK:

DARREN SHAN IS TURNED INTO A HALF-VAMPIRE IN ORDER TO SAVE HIS BEST FRIEND'S LIFE. HIS PEACEFUL LIFE GONE, DARREN STARTS ANEW WITH HIS MASTER, MR. CREPSLEY, AS A MEMBER OF THE CIRQUE DU FREAK. THOUGH HE MAKES TWO NEW FRIENDS THERE IN EVRA VON, THE SNAKE-BOY, AND SAM GREST, HIS HAPPY NEW ARRANGEMENT IS SHATTERED WHEN THE CIRQUE'S CHAINED WOLF-MAN ESCAPES AND KILLS SAM. BURDENED WITH A TERRIBLE SADNESS, DARREN RETREATS INTO THE DARKNESS AGAIN...

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EVRA AND I ARE ON A VISIT TO A RUN-DOWN WAREHOUSE IN A LITTLE TOWN, FAR FROM WHERE WE MET SAM.

IT'S BEEN OVER A YEAR SINCE SAM'S DEATH.



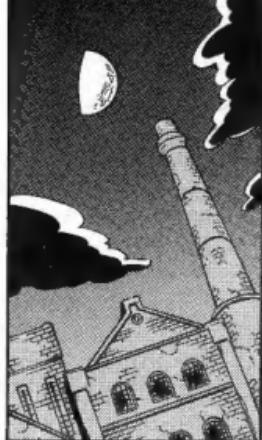
CHAPTER 15: GAVNER PURL

MAX SCANS



I
GOT-
CHA.





IS THIS HOW YOU TREAT A FRIEND YOU HAVEN'T SEEN IN SEVENTEEN YEARS, LARTEN?

NOBODY IN THE WORLD BREATHES AS HEAVILY AS YOU.

NOT TRUE! YOU COULDN'T HAVE!

SHAKA (SHHHH)

AH
UH ...
I HEARD YOU COMING FROM HALF A MILE AWAY.
GAVNER, GAVNER, GAVNER.
TON (TAP)

AN OLD, TRUSTED, RATHER CLUMSY FRIEND.

DARREN, THIS IS GAVNER PURL.

GAVNER, THIS IS DARREN SHAN.

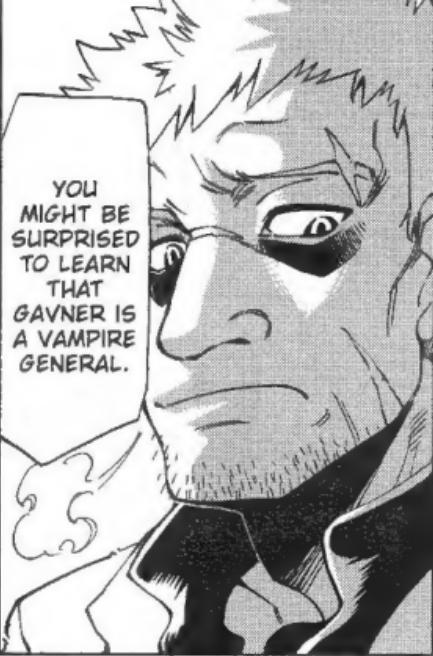
AS CUTTING AS EVER! YOU'D THINK CHILDREN WERE ALL I COULD SCARE ANYMORE!

IS THIS HOW LOW YOU HAVE SUNK, GAVNER?

FRIGHTENING A MERE BOY...

PLEASSED TO MEET YOU...









SFX: KOKU (NOD)

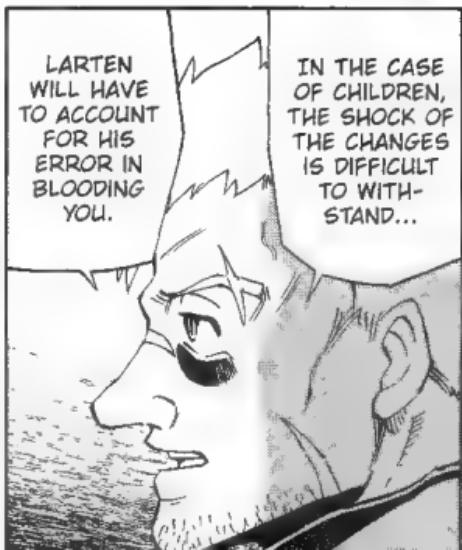
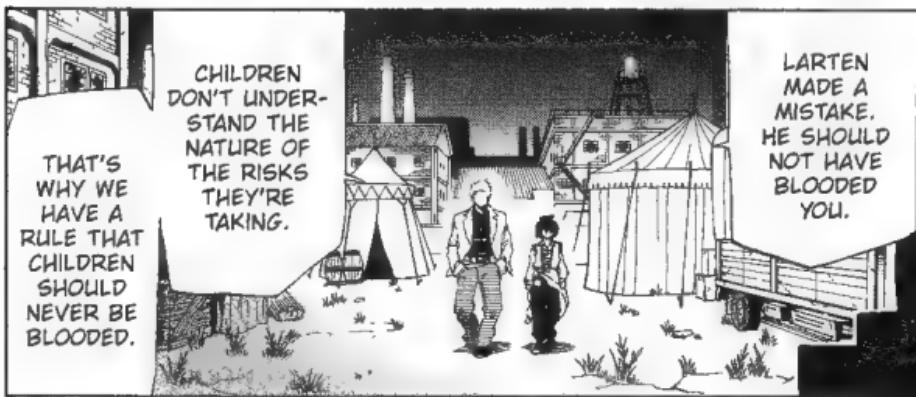




SFX: PAN (CLAP)







MR.
CREPSLEY
WAS
NEARLY
A GREAT
LEADER?

THAT'S WHAT
WE CALL OUR
LEADERS. THERE
ARE VERY FEW OF
THEM, AND ONLY
THE NOBLEST AND
MOST RESPECTED
VAMPIRES ARE
ELECTED!

PRINCE
?

HE WAS
ON THE
VERGE
OF BEING
VOTED A
VAMPIRE
PRINCE!
HE
USED
TO BE A
VAMPIRE
GEN-
ERAL!

WHY
WOULD
HE DO
THAT?

AND THEN
HE LEFT
US AND
DISAP-
PEARED,
ALL ON
HIS OWN.

BUT HE
STEPPED
DOWN
BEFORE
IT COULD
HAPPEN.

BEST
NOT TO
ASK.

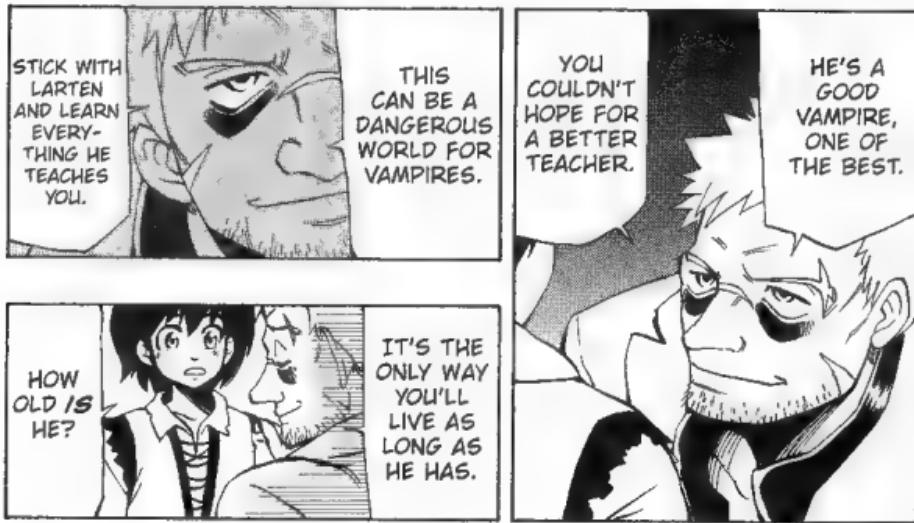
SORRY,
DARREN.
LARTEN'LL
SCALP ME
ALIVE IF I
TELL YOU
MORE.

MAYBE
HE JUST
GOT TIRED
OF THE
FIGHTING
AND
KILLING
...

NOBODY
KNOWS.
LARTEN
NEVER
GAVE
MUCH
AWAY.

YOU'RE
LEAVING?
I WANT-
ED TO
HEAR
MORE.

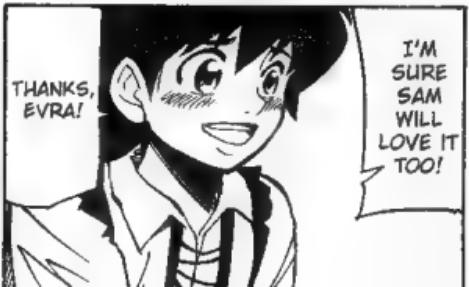
WELL, I
SHOULD
BE OFF
...



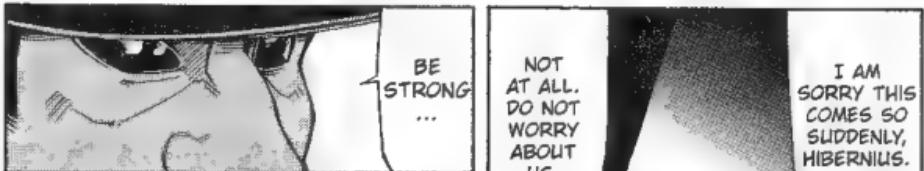
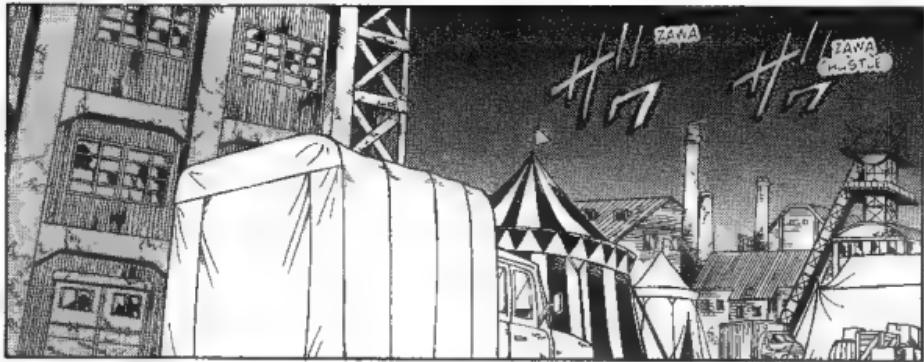








...AP
THAT
THE
PLA



THERE ARE
NO LAWS
AGAINST
VAMPIRES
USING PUB-
LIC TRANS-
PORTATION.

BUSES
AND
TRAINS.

I
WILL
NOT
BE
FLIT-
TING.

I SUP-
POSE
NOT...

THEN HOW
ARE WE
GOING TO
TRAVEL?

AND SO WE
SAID OUR
FAREWELLS
TO THE
CIRQUE DU
FREAK AND
HEADED OUT
FOR A FAR-
OFF CITY...

...WITHOUT
ANY IDEA
OF THE
EVIL TWIST
OF DESTINY
THAT
AWAITED US
THERE...

CHAPTER 16: THE BIG CITY







BY THE
END OF
THE FIRST
WEEK,
I'D GOT
USED
TO IT,
THOUGH...



IN FACT, EVEN NORMAL PEOPLE DIDN'T HAVE IT THIS GOOD—THEY HAD TO GO TO WORK OR SCHOOL DURING THE DAY.

I NEVER REALIZED TV COULD BE SO ADDICTIVE!



AFTER A YEAR WITH THE CIRQUE DU FREAK, I WAS A THRILL TO LIVE LIKE A NORMAL HUMAN AGAIN.



MR. CREPSLEY WENT OFF AT NIGHT WITHOUT TELLING US WHERE...











...I MEAN, MY
BROTHER A
CHRISTMAS
PRESENT.

I'M
GETTING
EV...

I LOST MY
GLOVES
EARLIER.
THAT'S
WHAT I'M
HERE TO
BUY.

H-
HOW
DID
YOU
KNOW
?!

OH,
THE ONE
WITH
THE
MASK!

I SEE.
SO YOU
WEREN'T
JUST TALK-
ING TO A
STRANGER.

OF
COURSE
NOT!
HA-HA
HA

YOU TWO
HANG OUT
IN THE
SQUARE
A LOT,
DON'T
YOU?
I LIVE
NEAR
HERE,
SO I
SEE YOU
FROM
MY WIN-
DOW.

KU...
(CREEK)

HERE.

I HATE
SHOPPING
BY MYSELF
ANYWAY!

GOOD!
IT'S A
DEAL,
THEN.

OKAY
...

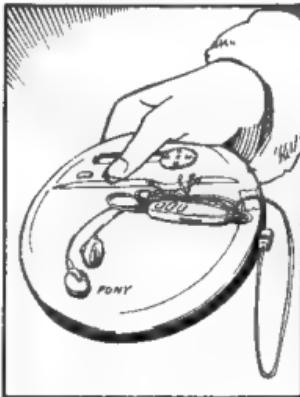
I CAN
HELP YOU
LOOK
FOR YOUR
PRESENT.
WANT
TO SHOP
TOGETHER?

WHY,
DAR-
REN!

KU...
(CREAK)

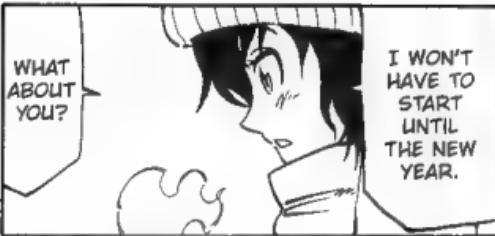
GIGI
(CREAK)









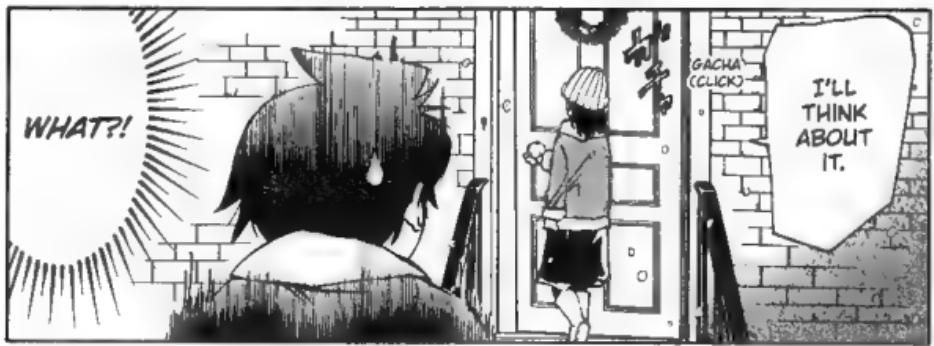






DARREN,
GIRLS
NEVER
ASK BOYS
OUT.

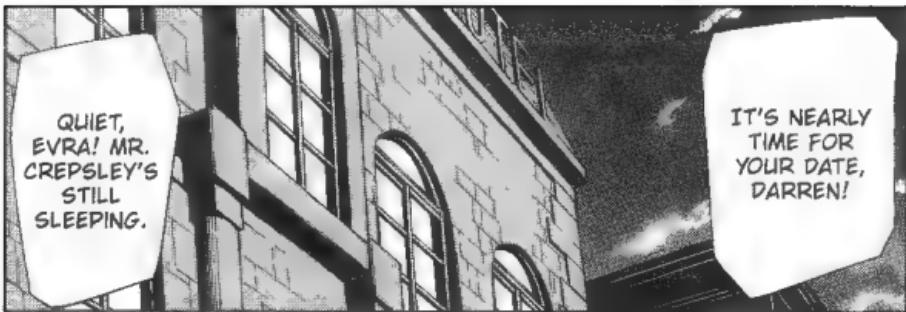


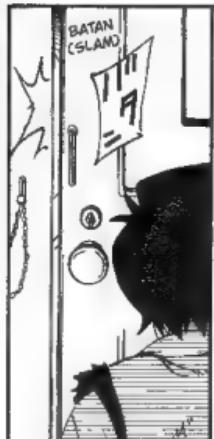


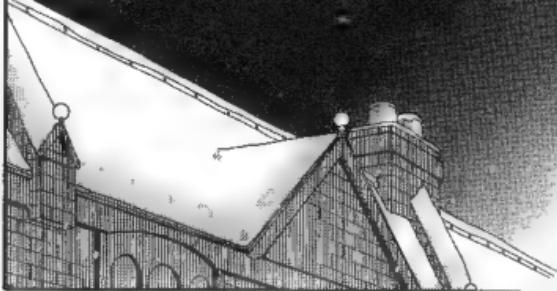




CHAPTER 17: FIRST DATE



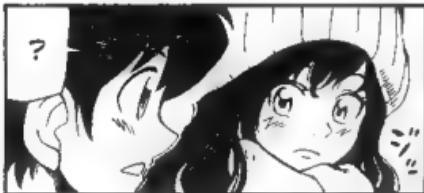


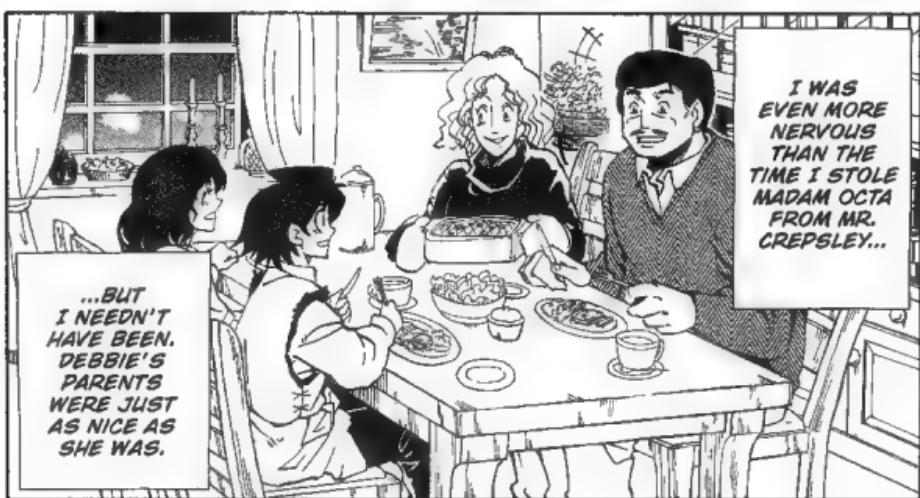


AFTER WE FOUND DEBBIE A NICE PAIR OF GLOVES...



SFX: BURU (SHIVER)

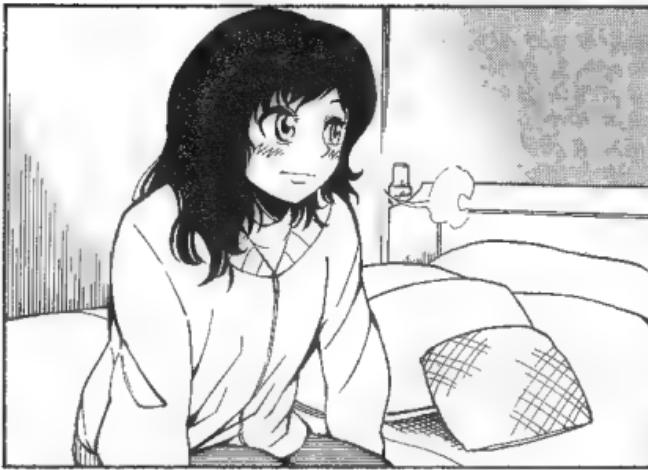


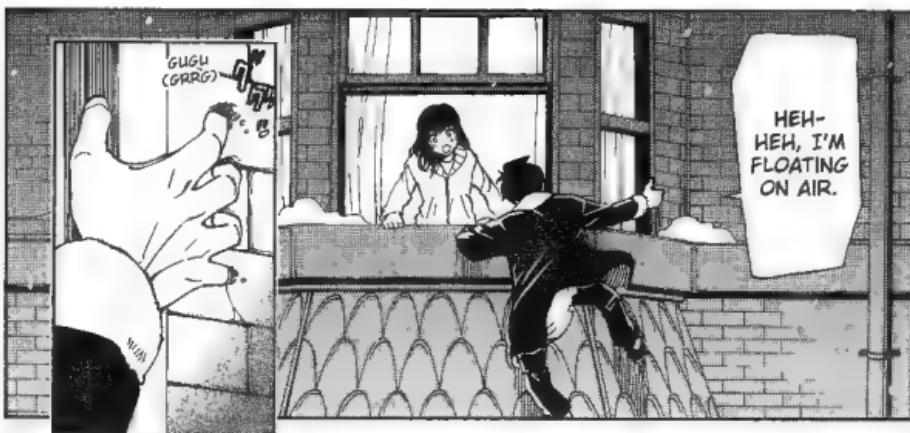


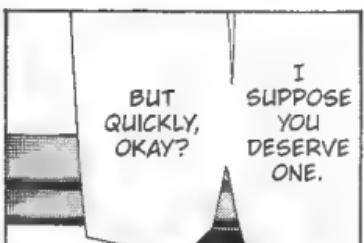














HERE.
HERE'S
ANOTHER
ONE.

CHU
(SMOOCH)

SEE YOU
TOMOR-
ROW,
ROMEO.

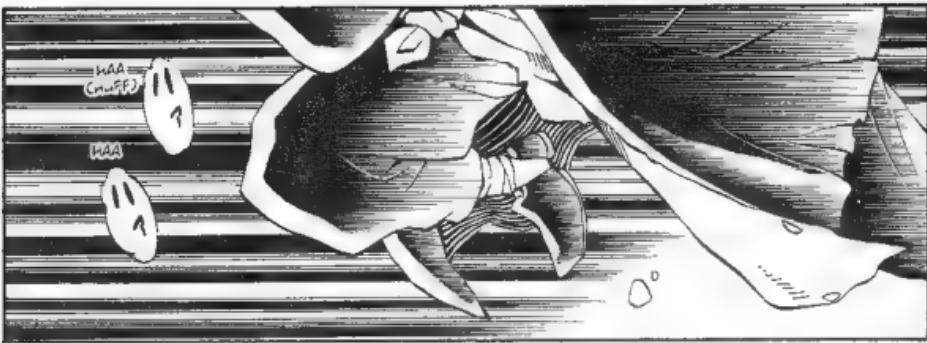
NIKO
(GRIND)

AAAHH!!

TOMOR-
ROW.

ZURU
(SLIP)





...YOU
SHOULD
WATCH
THIS...

I
THINK
...

HAVE
YOU
SEEN
THE
NEWS?

EVRA!

DAR-
REN!

NEWS?
WHAT
ABOUT
MY
DATE?

The throats
of all six
corpses were
slit, and the
bodies were
drained dry of
blood.

As you
can see,
they are
remov-
ing the
six bodies,
one after
the other!

I tell
you, it's
absolute
chaos
down here!

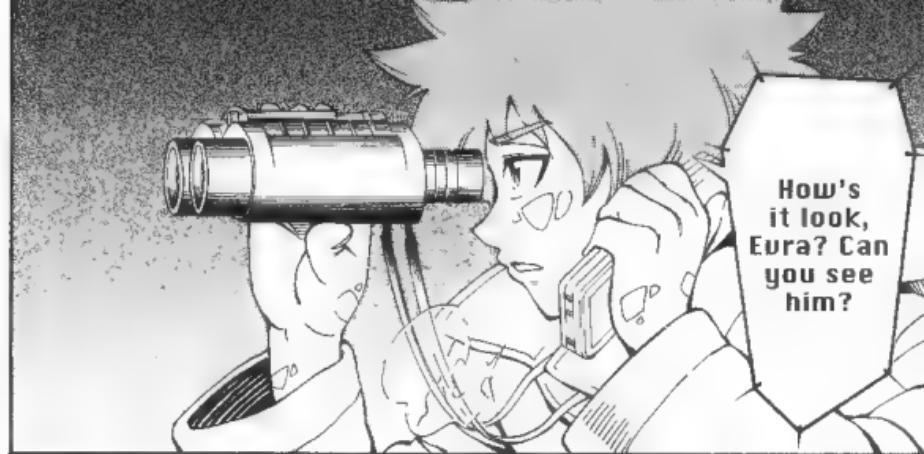
I know
this
sounds
too
crazy
to be
true,
but...

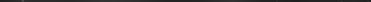
ZAA

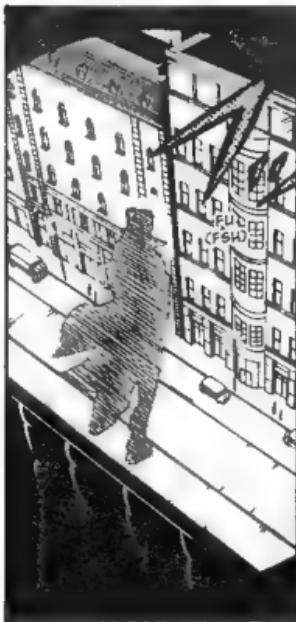


CHAPTER 18: SUSPICIOUS MINDS









I really doubt it.

YOU DON'T THINK HE NOTICED WE WERE TRACKING HIM, DO YOU?

HE WAS TOO FAST FOR ME TO SEE WHICH WAY HE WENT...

Did you see that, Darren?

...BUT FROM THIS DISTANCE, PLUS BEING DOWNWIND ...

VAMPIRES MIGHT HAVE VERY SHARP SENSES...

WE'LL HAVE TO TRY AGAIN TOMORROW ...

YOU'RE RIGHT...





MUKURU
(SH-UMP)

THE
ALL-NIGHT
STALKING WAS
MAKING ME
SLEEP LIKE
A ROCK...

...BUT
I STILL
MADE
TIME FOR
DEBBIE.

SULL
(ZZZZ)

SULL



HA
(GASP) ..

KUSH
(GIGGLE)

I KNOW
I'M STILL
A HALF-
VAMPIRE.

THOSE
BAGS
UNDER
YOUR
EYES!
ARE YOU
OKAY?

I KNOW
THIS ISN'T
THE MOST
SENSIBLE
THING I
COULD BE
DOING.

I KNOW
THIS ISN'T
GOING
TO LAST
FOREVER.

SHALL
WE
GO?

U TO
(DOZED)

U TO

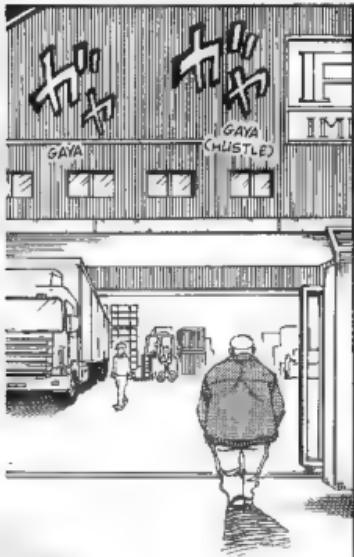
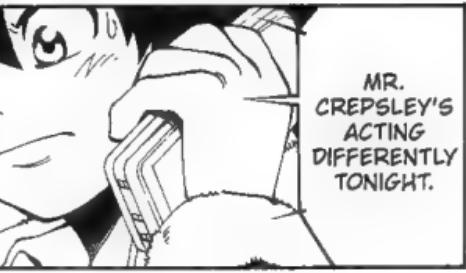


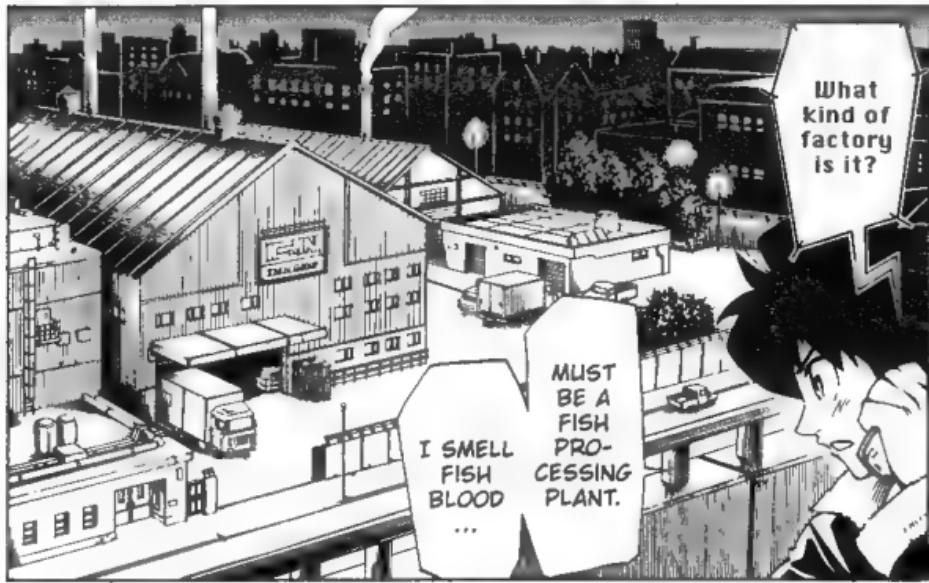
BEING
WITH MY
VERY FIRST
GIRLFRIEND
IS MORE
IMPORTANT
TO ME THAN
ANYTHING.

BUT
I LOVE
SPENDING
TIME WITH
HER.

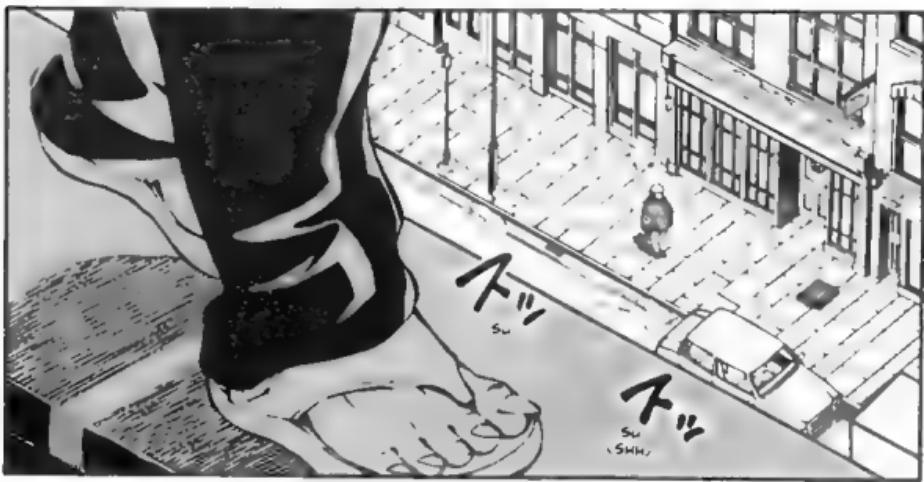


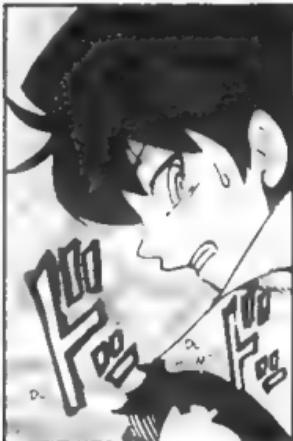






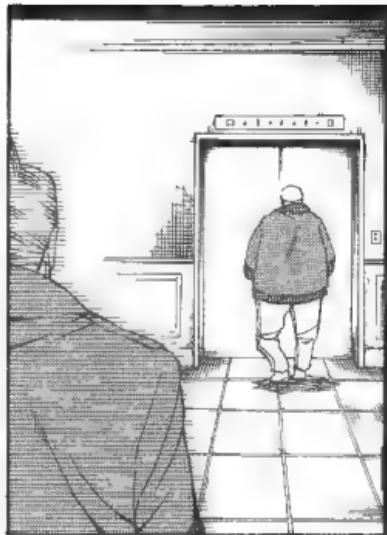














17

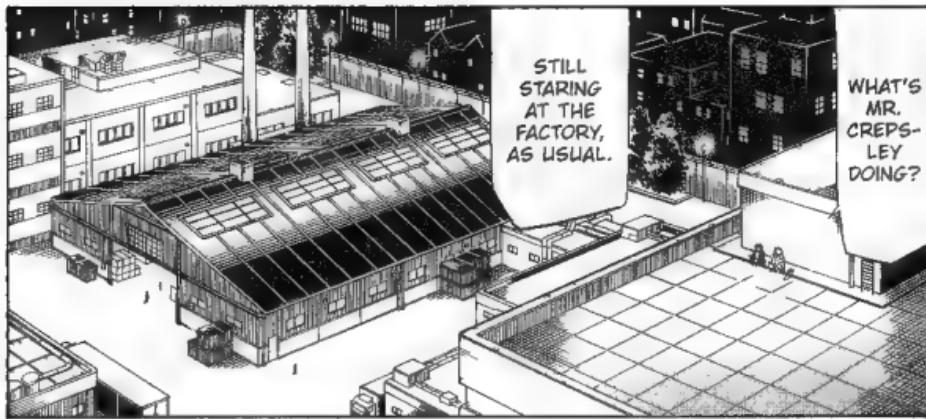






CHAPTER 19: A MYSTERIOUS CREATURE





I ONLY AGREED TO GO ALONG WITH MR. CREPSLEY BECAUSE HE CONVINCED ME HE WASN'T BAD.

PLUS, THIS IS MY PROBLEM.

I DON'T WANT YOU INVOLVED, EVRA.

YOU'RE SURE ABOUT THIS?

I BELIEVED THAT VAMPIRES DIDN'T KILL INNOCENT PEOPLE.

YOU'RE NOT A VAMPIRE. YOU WOULDN'T LAST A SECOND...

NO WAY!

IF HE'S ABOUT TO COMMIT HIS SEVENTH MURDER, I'LL MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T.

I HAVE TO SEE FOR MYSELF.

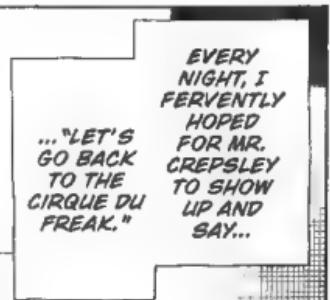
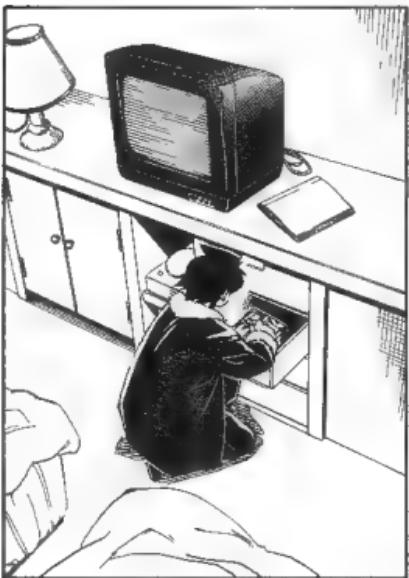
IF HE'S REALLY THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF THOSE SIX PEOPLE, I CAN'T STAY WITH HIM ANYMORE.

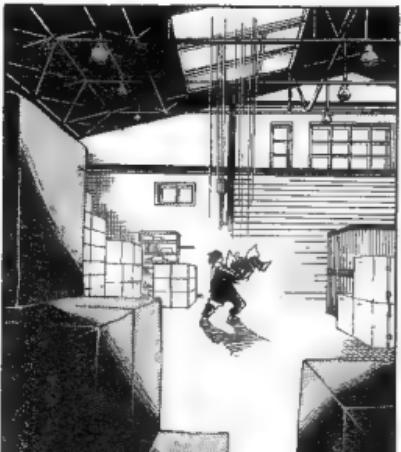
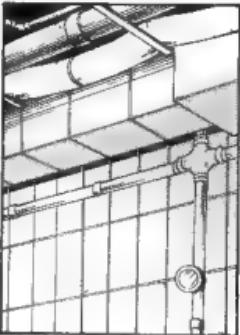
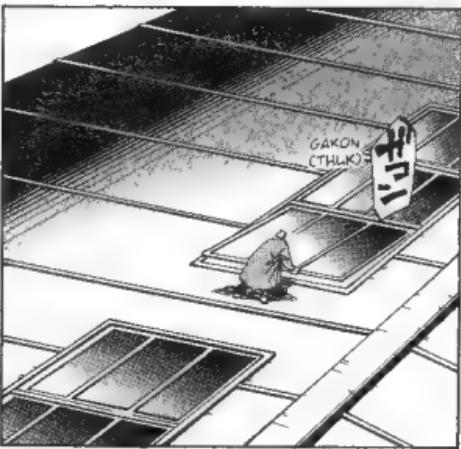
OKAY, YOU WIN...

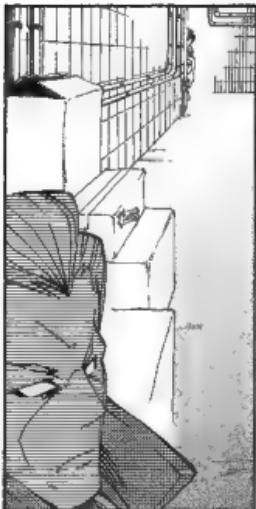
EVRA

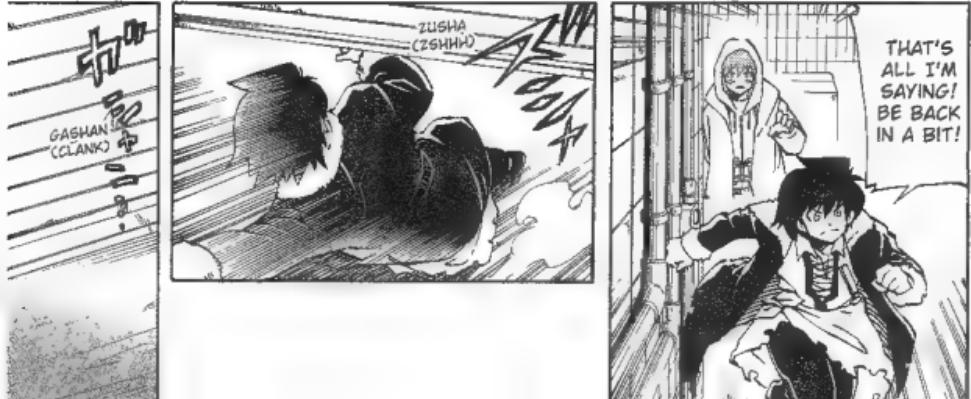
LET'S STOP HIM TOGETHER!

YOU CAN'T TAKE THIS ALL ON YOURSELF!

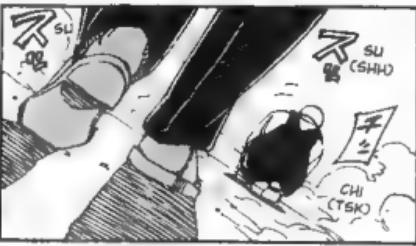












SFX DO (BA-BUMP) DO

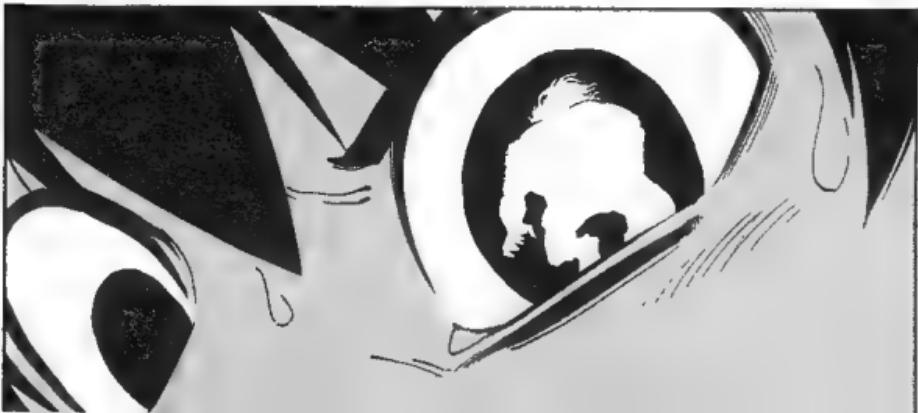




DARREN?!

BI (SLASH)



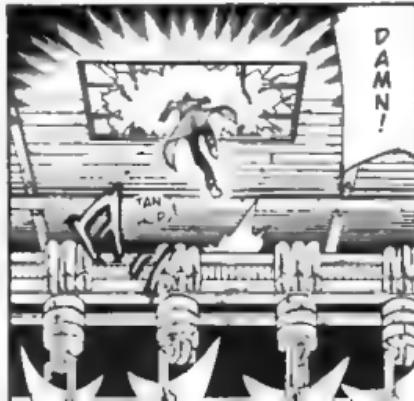






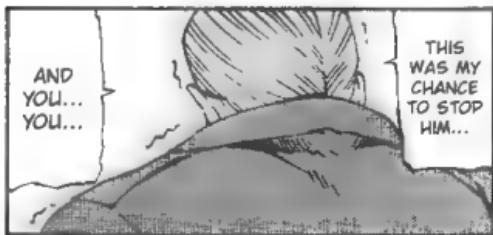
SFX HI (GASP)





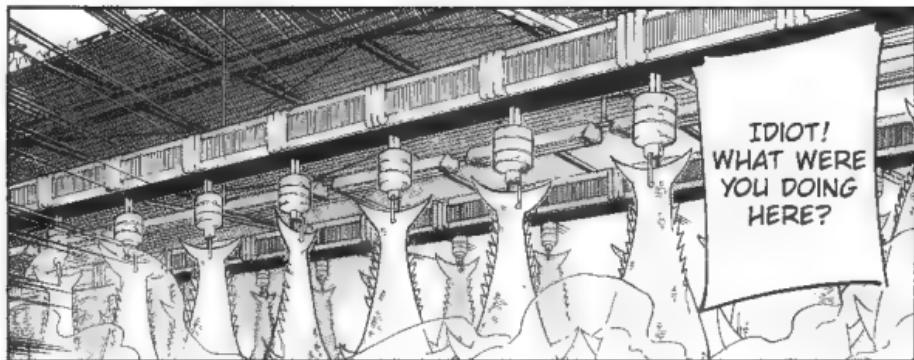








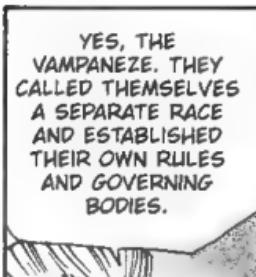
CHAPTER 20:
VAMPIRES AND
VAMPANEZE



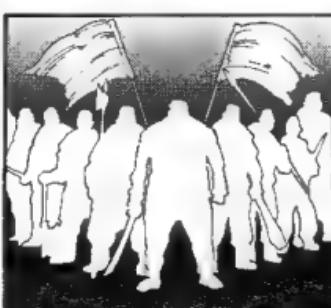








MOST VAMPIRE
WERE CON-
TO OBEY
LAWS, BUT
SOME WE-
NOT.



IN
OLDE
NIGHT
HUMAN
WERE
LOOKED
DOWN UP
BY MA-
VAMPIR

THEY
BELIEVE
THERE IS
NOBILITY IN
DRAINING A
PERSON AND
ABSORBING
THEIR SPIRIT

...AS YOU
ABSORBED
PART
OF SAM
GREST'S.

BASICALLY,
THE VAMPANEZE
BELIEVE THERE
IS SHAME IN
TAKING SMALL
AMOUNTS OF
BLOOD FROM
A HUMAN AT
A TIME.

...TO WAGE
A LONG,
LONG WAR
AGAINST
EACH
OTHER.

IT IS THAT
VERY DIS-
AGREEMENT
WHICH LED
VAMPIRE AND VAM-
PANEZE...

COR-
RECT.

SO THEY
ALWAYS
KILL THE
PEOPLE
THEY DRINK
FROM?

THE VAMPIRES
WERE WINNING,
HOWEVER. WE
WOULD HAVE
HUNTED THE
VAMPANEZE
OUT OF
EXISTENCE...

...IF WE
HAD NOT
BEEN
STOPPED.

...AND
MUCH
BLOOD
WAS
SHED ON
BOTH
SIDES.
...

THE
FIGHTING
WAS
TERRIBLE



...SO
THAT THE
VAMPIRES
AND
VAMPANEZE
WOULD NOT
CLASH AND
WAR ANY
LONGER.

WE
AGREED
TO LIVE
APART
FROM
ONE
ANOTH-
ER...

WE WOULD
LEAVE THEM
ALONE IF
THEY STOPPED
MURDERING
SO FREELY.



LIKE
MUR-
LOUGH?

TIME HAS
CHANGED THE
VAMPANEZE
AND THEIR
APPEARANCE.

FOR
CENTURIES
WE HAVE
MAINTAINED
THIS
SEPARATION.

MOST
VAMPANEZE
ARE NOT AS
COLOURFUL AS
MURLOUGH.



**THEY'RE
THE REASON
WHY
VAMPIRES
HAVE SUCH
A BAD
REPUTATION!**

SO THE
VAMPANEZE
ARE EVIL.

AFTER
SEVERAL
DECades,
YOUNG
VAMPANEZE
WILL FIND
THEIR SKIN
CHANGING TO
THAT HORRID
COLOUR.

PURPLE
SKIN,
RED
EYES.

THESE CHANGES
CAME ABOUT
BECAUSE THEY
DRINK MORE
BLOOD THAN
VAMPIRES.

IT IS HOW SOLDIERS WHO MURDER OTHERS IN BATTLE COME TO BE CALLED HEROES.

GOOD AND EVIL CHANGE ACCORDING TO THE TIME, SITUATION, AND OBSERVER, DARREN.

TO US, THEY ARE MORE LIKE MISGUIDED COUSINS.

I WAS GOING TO EXECUTE HIM.

HE HAS LOST CONTROL AND KILLS INDISCRIMINATELY, FEEDING HIS LUNATIC LUST.

WHAT WERE YOU GOING TO DO WITH MURLOUGH, THEN?

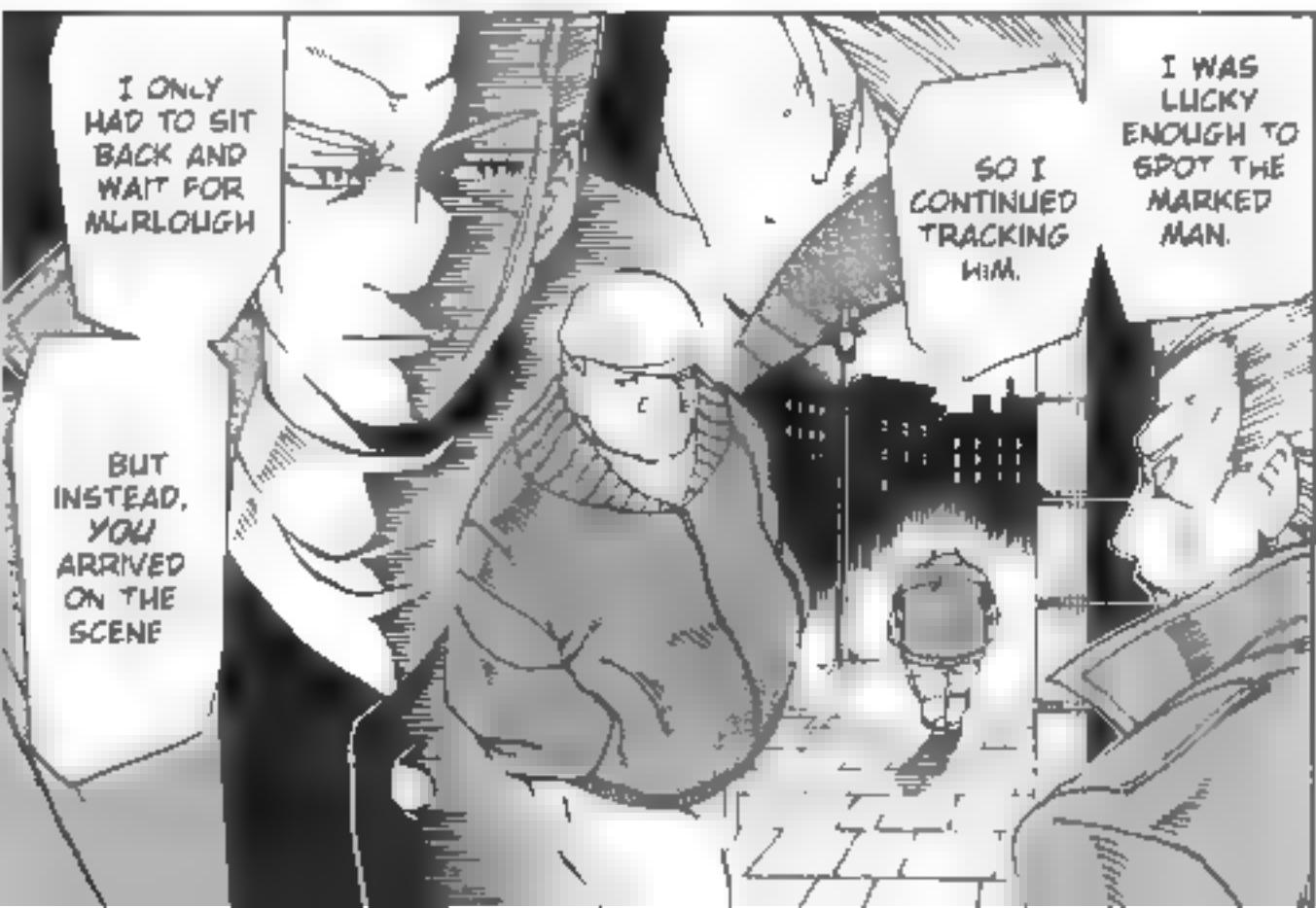
HE IS STARVING FOR BLOOD.

MADNESS HAS INVADED MURLOUGH'S MIND.

GUGOO...
GUGOO
GUGOO

LOOK AT THE LEFT CHEEK OF THIS MAN.

HUH...?



ISN'T THAT EVEN MORE REASON WHY YOU SHOULD GO AFTER HIM?!

MURLOUGH IS NO FOOL. HE WILL BE LEAVING THIS CITY AS WE SPEAK.



AREN'T YOU GOING TO FOLLOW HIM?!

YES. THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS TO ME IS THAT HE HAS LEFT THIS CITY.

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO LET HIM TERRORIZE ANOTHER CITY?

IT IS NOT MY PLACE TO WORRY ABOUT CREATURES SUCH AS HIM.

...IT IS SIMPLY AN ISSUE OF MY OWN RESPONSIBILITY.

IF A SINGLE VAMPIRE SUCH AS MYSELF KILLS A VAMPANEZE ...

THEN WHY ARE YOU GETTING INVOLVED?

IT WOULD BREAK THE PEACE ACCORD IF THEY INTERVENED.

AT WORST, IT COULD SPARK ALL-OUT WAR.

THE HANDS OF THE VAMPIRE GENERALS ARE TIED IN MATTERS SUCH AS THESE.



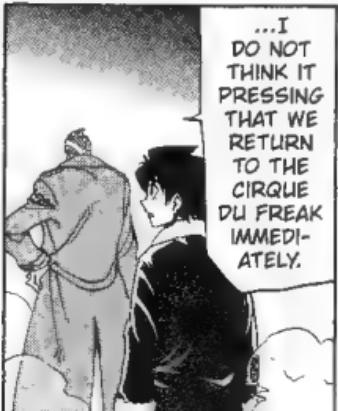
MY LIFE IS
A TRIFLING
PRICE TO
PAY FOR
PROTECTING
THIS CITY AND
AVERTING
A WAR.

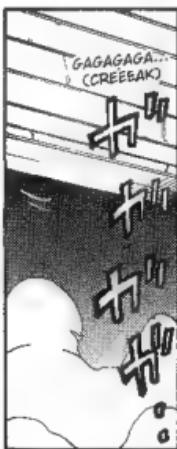
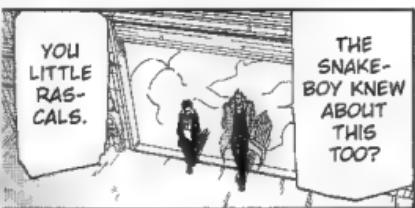
THEY WILL
CHASE YOU TO
THE ENDS OF
THE EARTH TO
AVENGE THE
MURDER OF
ONE OF THEIR
OWN.

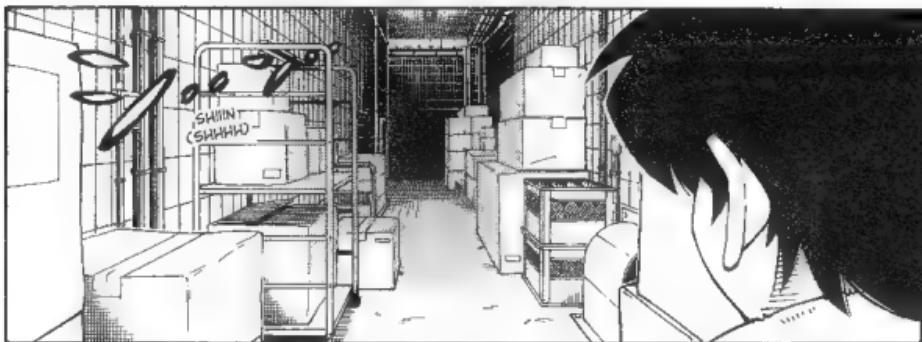
THE
VAM-
PANEZE
ARE A
LOYAL
SORT.



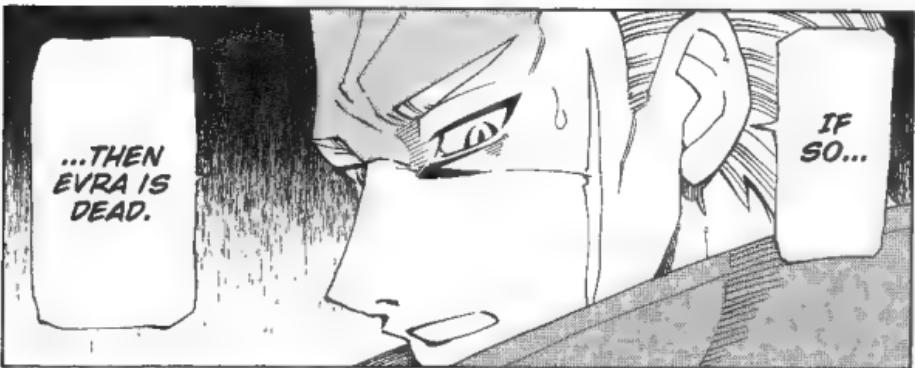
BECAUSE
THIS IS THE
CITY WHERE
I WAS BORN.





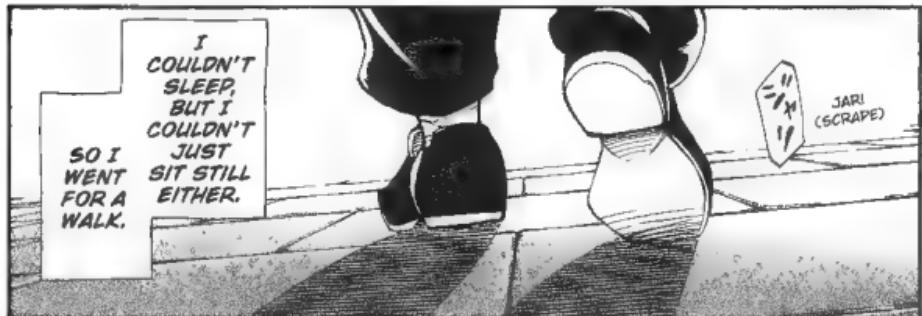


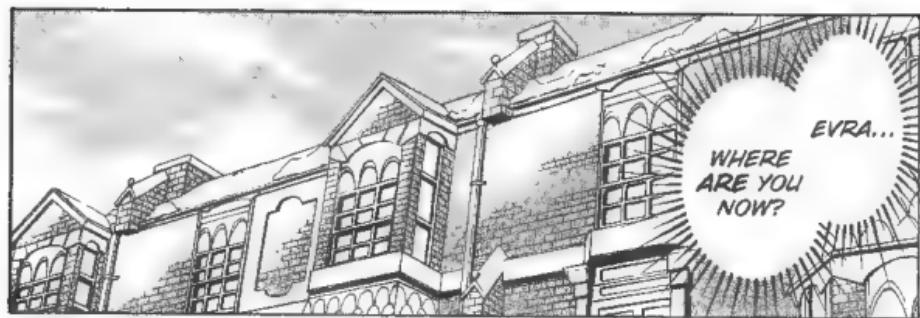


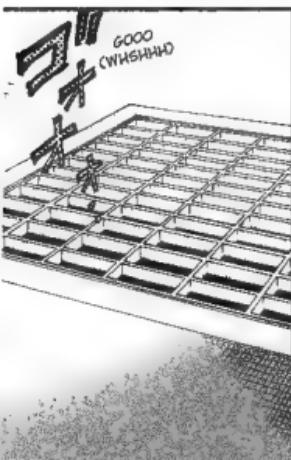


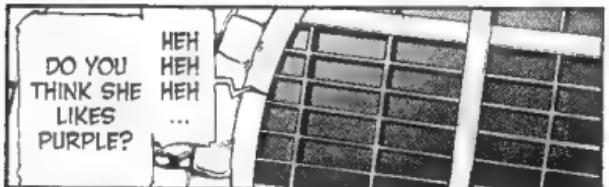
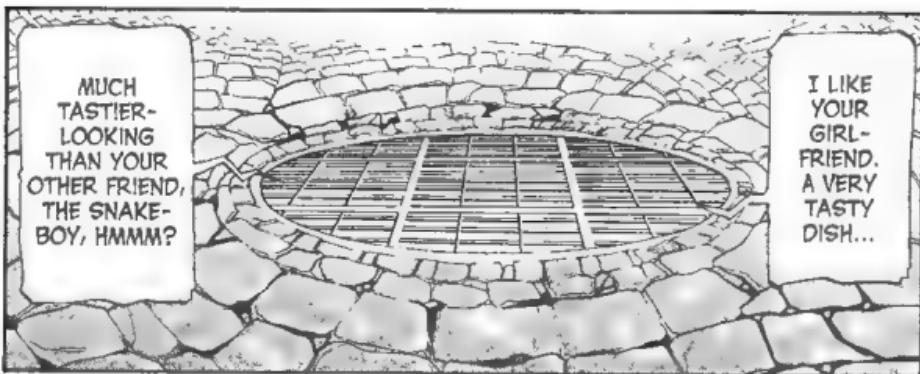
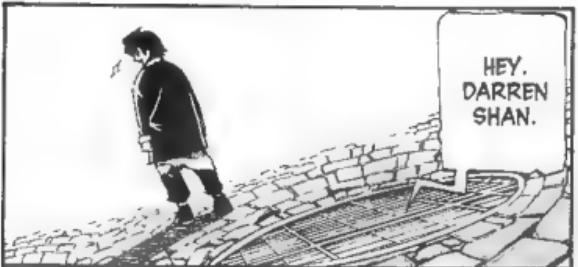
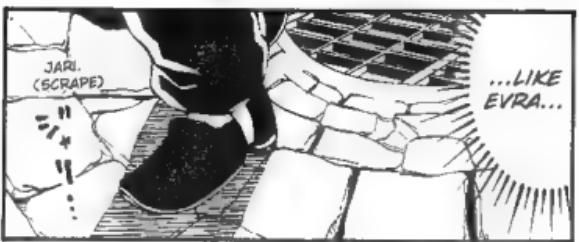


CHAPTER 21: THE EVIL BENEATH





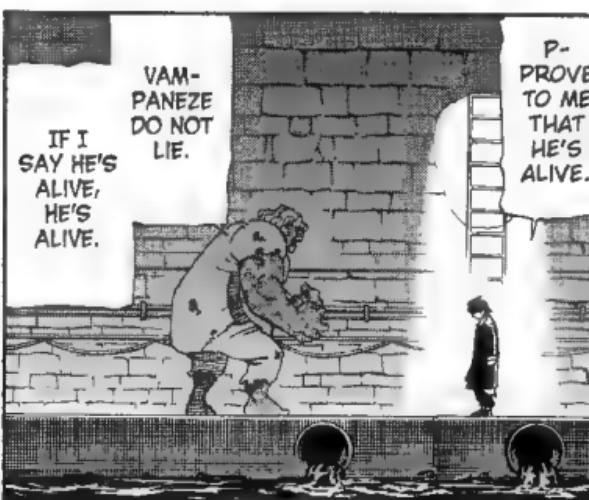






BACK,
BOY,
BACK





YOU
MEAN
MR.
CREPS-
LEY?

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO THE
OTHER
VAMPIRE
...?

I'VE
BEEN
PLAYING,
DARREN
SHAN.

LARTEN
CREPS-
LEY,
YES?

AHH,
YES
...
THAT
WAS
CREPS-
LEY...

WHAT
SORT
OF A
DEAL?

...BUT I
THINK WE
CAN MAKE
A DEAL,
CAN'T WE?

YOU LOOK
LIKE A SMART
BOY. NOT
AS SMART
AS YOUNG
MURLOUGH...

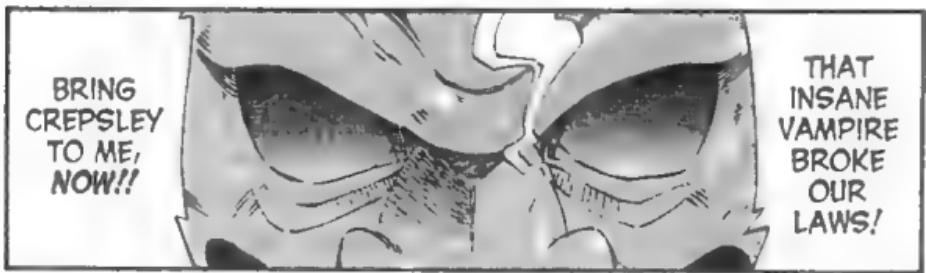
I'LL GIVE
YOU ME
FOR
EVRA!
WHY
NOT
THAT
??!

I'LL
DO NO
SUCH
THING!

IF YOU
WANT
SNAKEY
BACK...

...YOU
HAND
OVER
CREPS-
LEY.

A VERY
SIMPLE
SWAP.

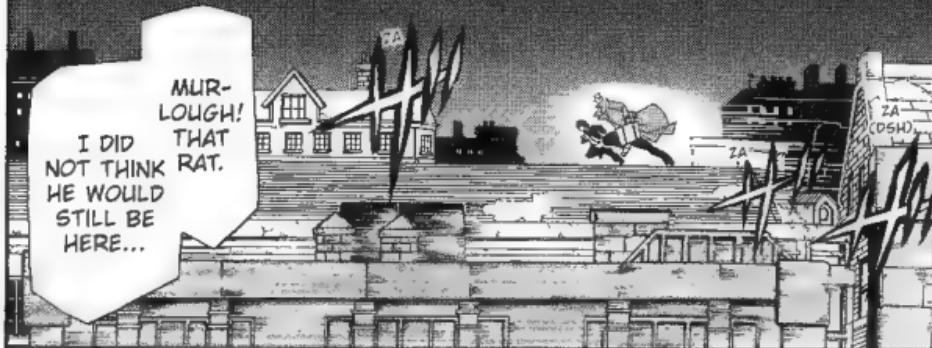




SFX: NYUA . (SLURP)

9





IT IS
UNFORTUNATE
THAT YOU
REFUSED
TO SWAP ME
FOR EVRA,
HOWEVER.



YES,
BUT WE
SAID
WE'D
TRUST
EACH
OTHER,
REMEM-
BER?



I HAVE GRAVELY
UNDER-
ESTIMATED
YOU,
DARREN.

AHEM!
KOFF!!

I FEEL
HONOURED
TO HAVE
YOU BY MY
SIDE...

THE VAM-
PANEEZ
ARE TRUE
TO THEIR
WORD.

UNLESS
MUR-
LOUGH
CHANGES
HIS
MIND.

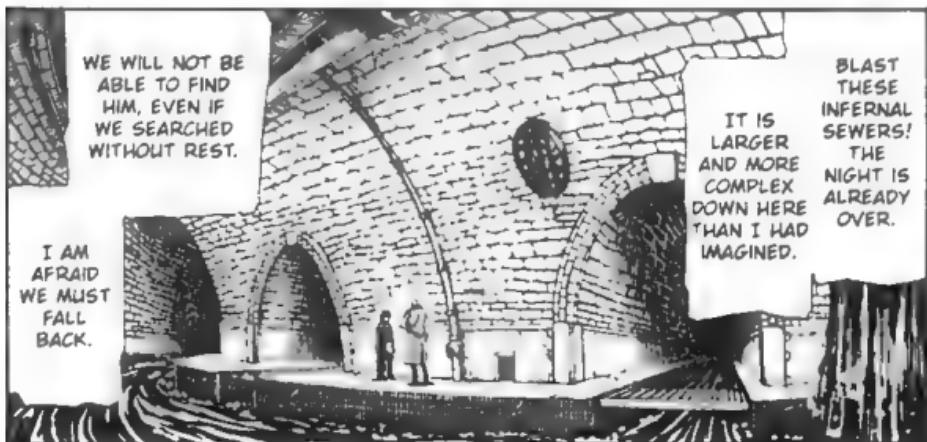
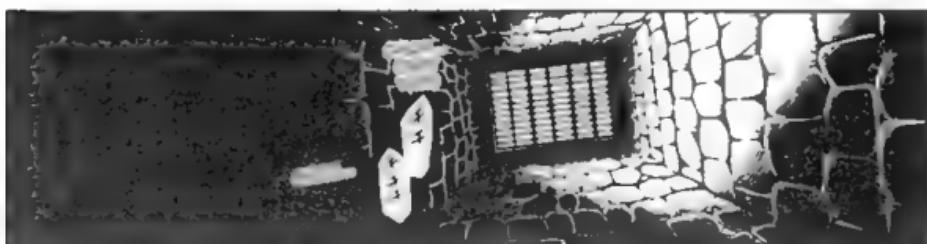
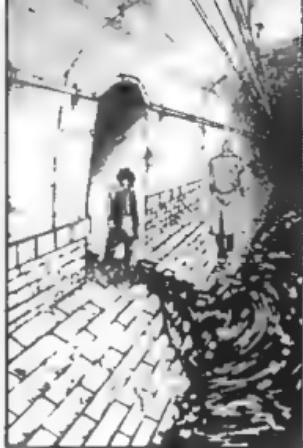
THERE IS
STILL HOPE.
IT IS NOW
THE TWENTY-
THIRD, AND WE
HAVE UNTIL
CHRISTMAS
MORNING
TO SAVE
HIM.

...SO,
WHAT
ABOUT
EVRA?



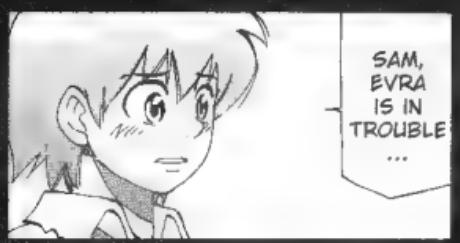
AND IF
SHOULD
RUN IN
MURLOUGH
BEFORE
WE CAN
RESCUE
EVRA.











REMEM-
BER,
DARREN.

VAMPIRES
CANNOT
DRINK THE
BLOOD OF
JUST ANY
ANIMAL.

SNAKEY
...
SNAKE...

DOG
AND COW
BLOOD IS
HARMLESS
TO US, BUT
CATS ARE
NO GOOD.

COULD
THE SAME
BE TRUE
FOR THE
VAMPANEZE?

MONKEY,
FROG, AND
SNAKE BLOOD
ARE ALSO LIKE
POISON
TO US.

MURLOUGH
CAN'T DRINK
EVRA'S BLOOD!
THAT'S WHY
HE DIDN'T
EAT HIM!

GO ON
AND SAVE
EVRA,
DARREN...

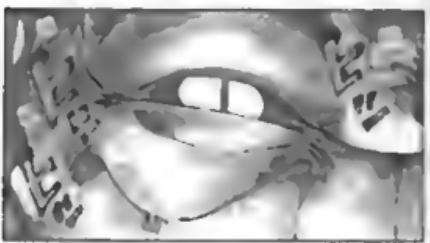
IF I
CAN USE
THAT
AGAINST
HIM...

HE CAN'T
DRINK FROM
ME OR MR.
CREPSLEY
EITHER. HE
MUST BE
STARVING!

NIKO
GRIND



CHAPTER 22: THE ROAD TO EVRA



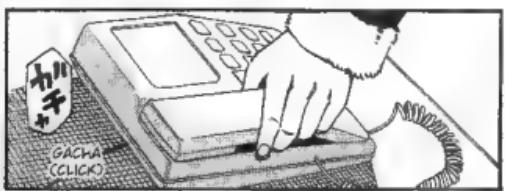
MUSCLES

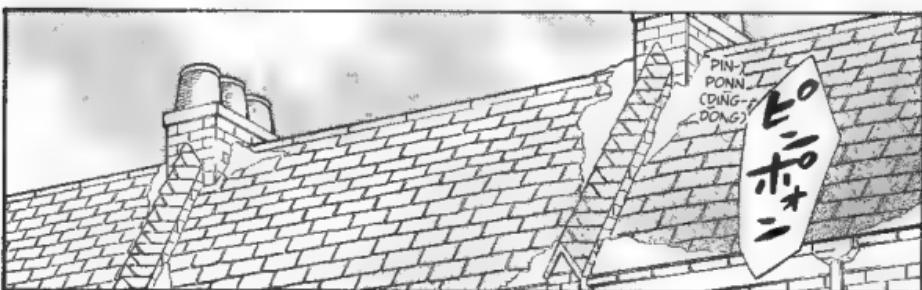


**CHAPTER 22:
THE ROAD TO EVRA**



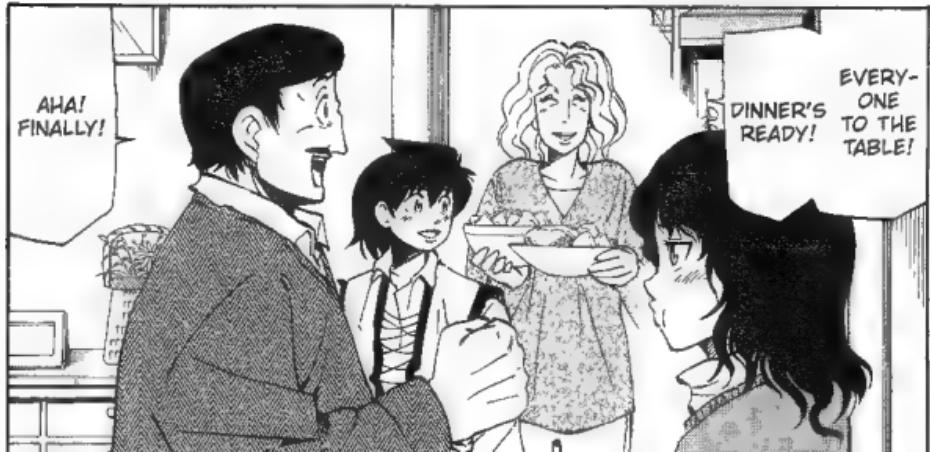








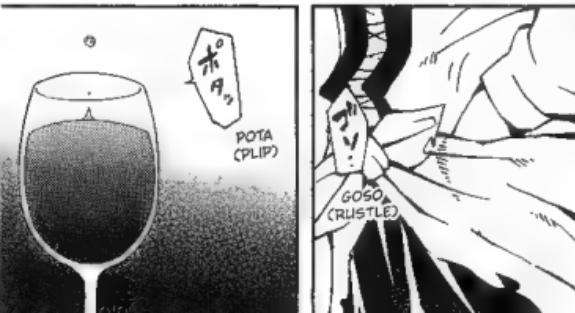
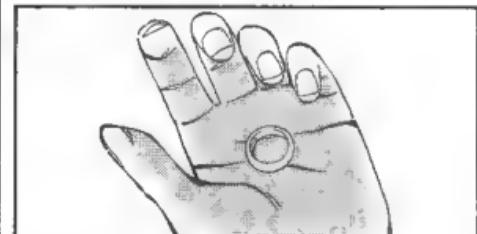


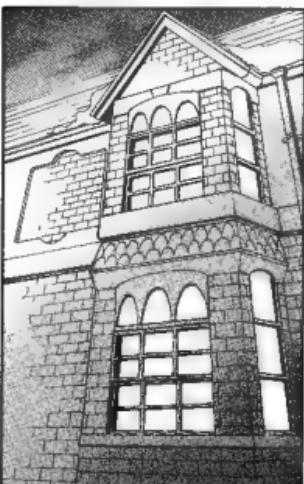
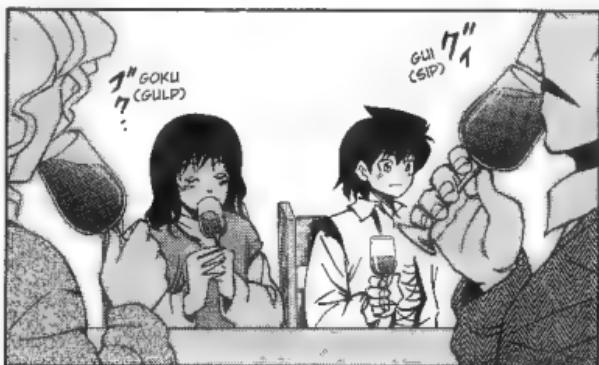




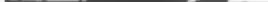
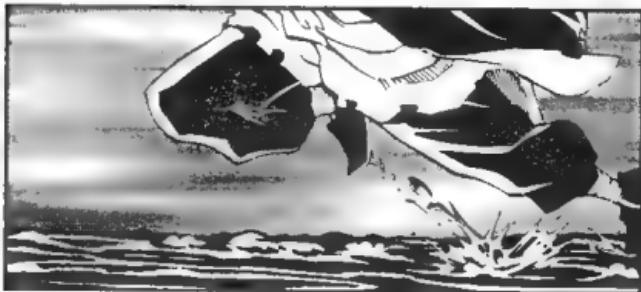
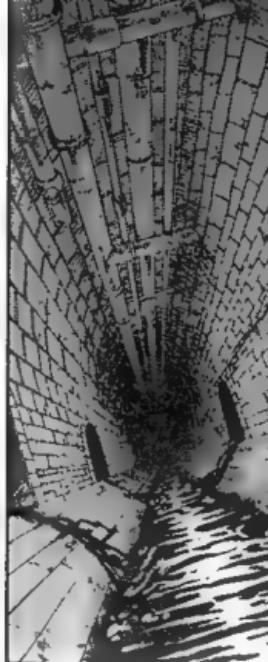
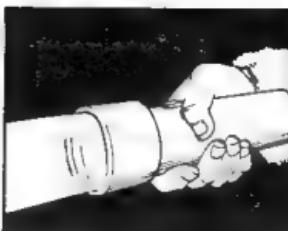














I'M
GOING
ON MY
OWN!

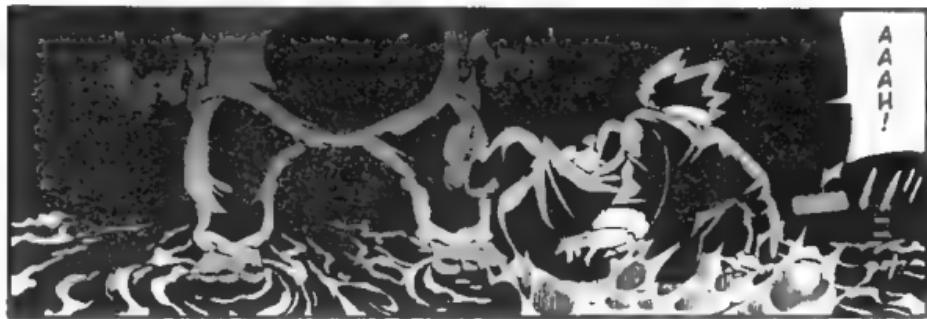
SHUT UP!
GO AND
GET A
NEW ONE,
THEN!

I TOLD
YOU
THIS
WOULD
HAP-
PEN!

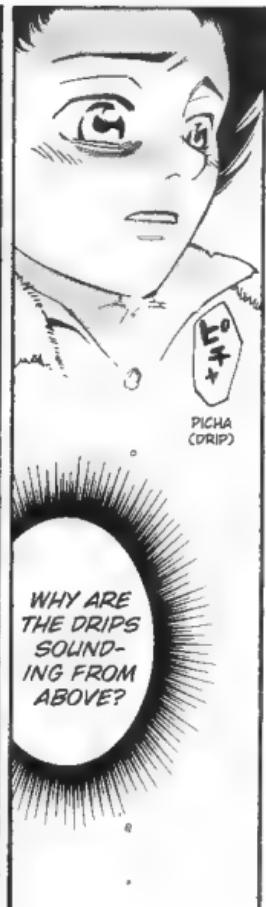
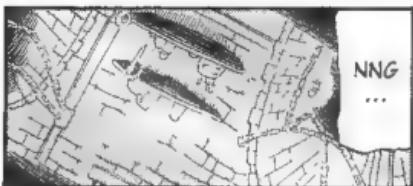
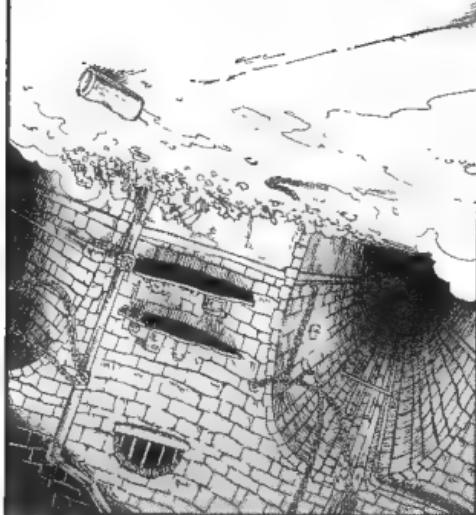
YOU IDIOT!
NOW WE
WILL HAVE
TO GO BACK
UP AND FIND
A REPLACE-
MENT!





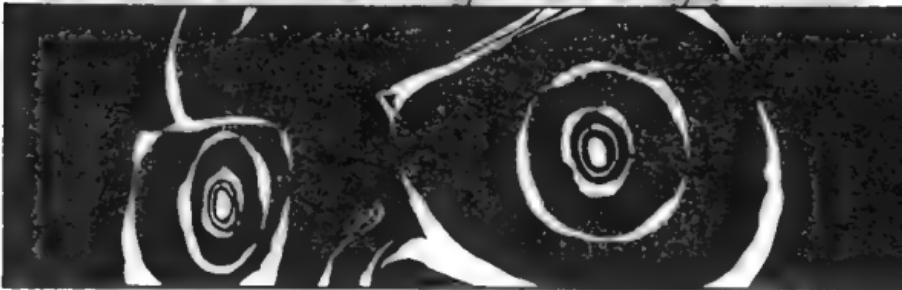








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MILYSCANS







WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT? ASSUMING VAMPANEZE CAN ACTUALLY DRINK SNAKE'S BLOOD.



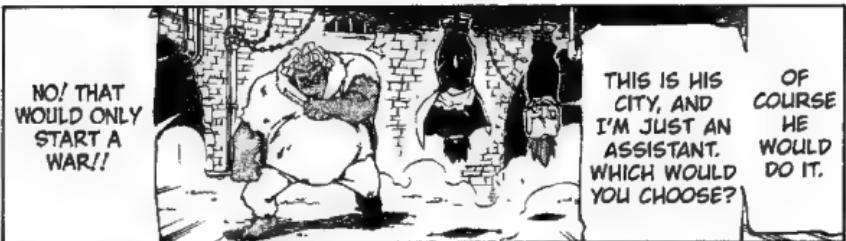
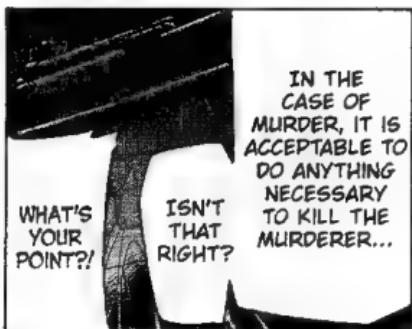
THERE ARE PLENTY OF HUMANS UP ABOVE US...



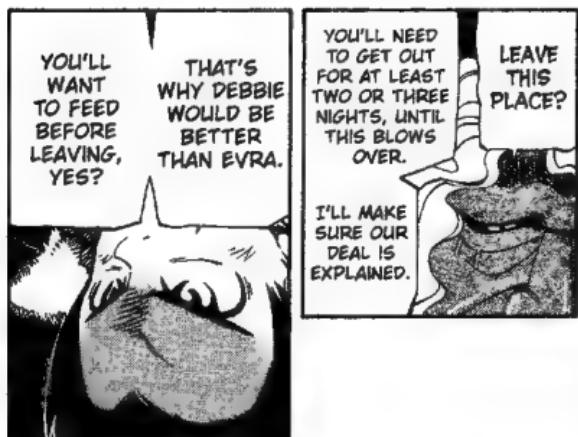
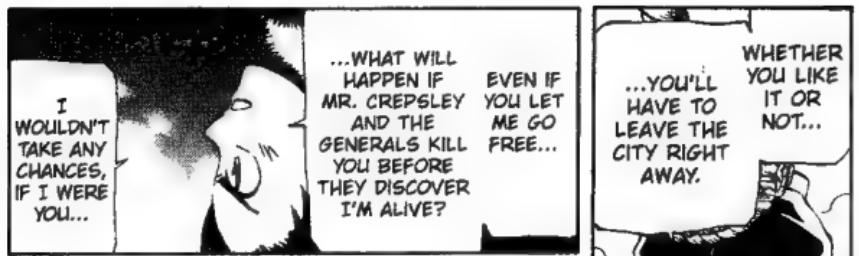
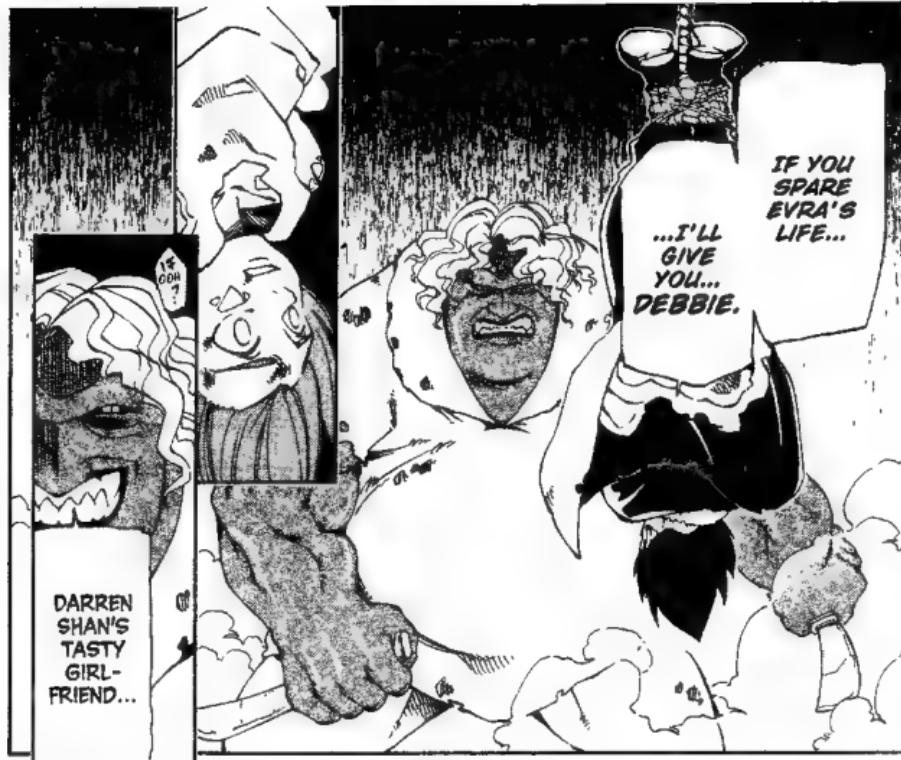














BUT ONLY IF WE HAVE A DEAL. I'M TRADING DEBBIE FOR EVRA.



I CAN TAKE YOU TO DEBBIE RIGHT AWAY.



OH, YOU'RE CLEVER, ALL RIGHT.



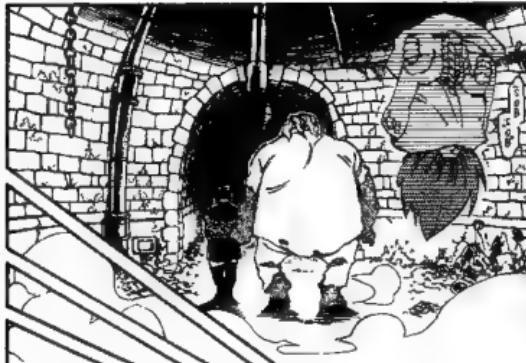
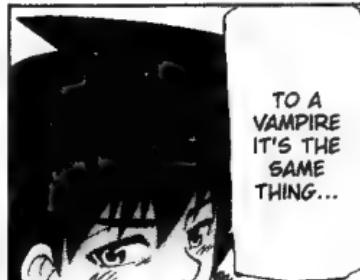
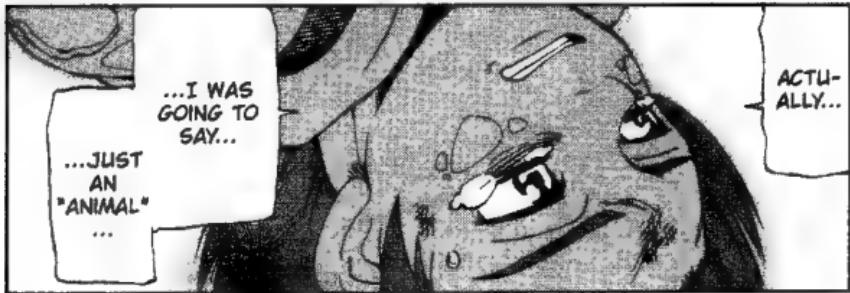
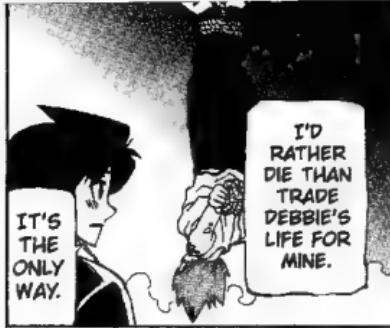
HOW COULD I POSSIBLY AFFORD TO PLAY A TRICK ON YOU IN THIS SITUATION?



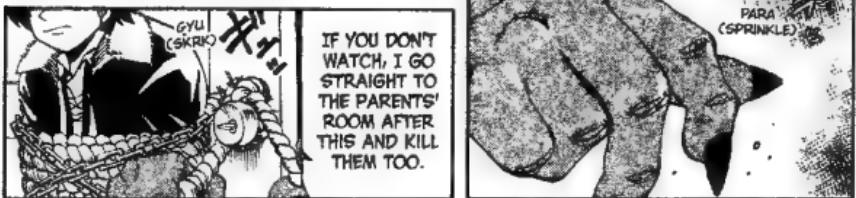
DON'T WORRY, EVRA. I WON'T BE THAT LONG.



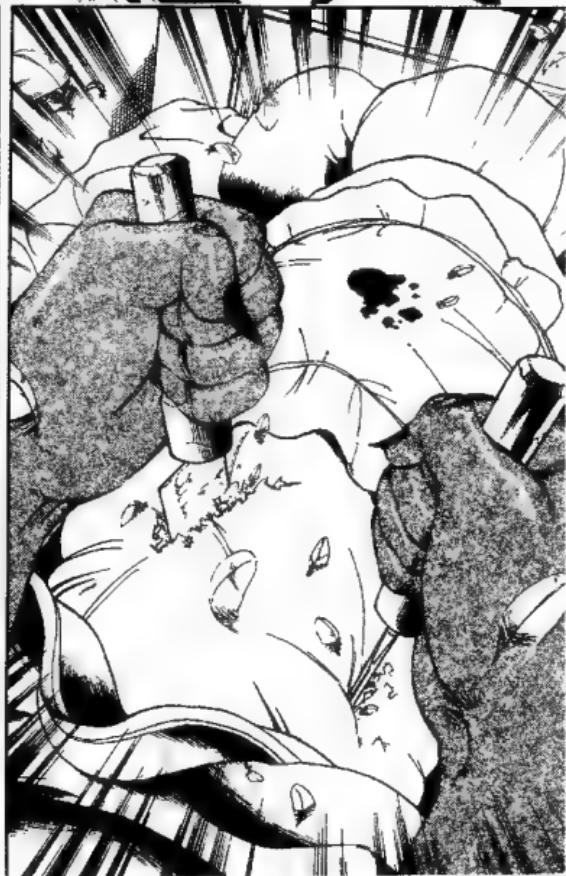
WE HAVE A DEAL.

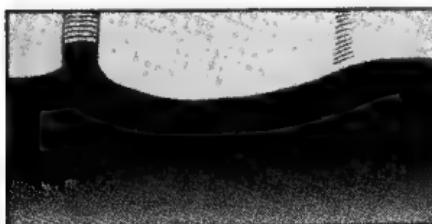
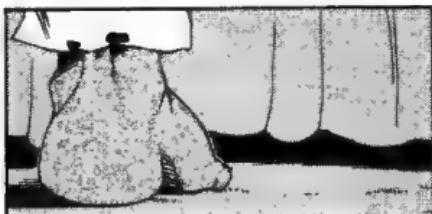














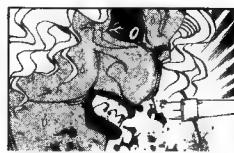
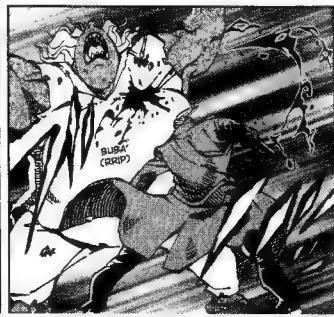


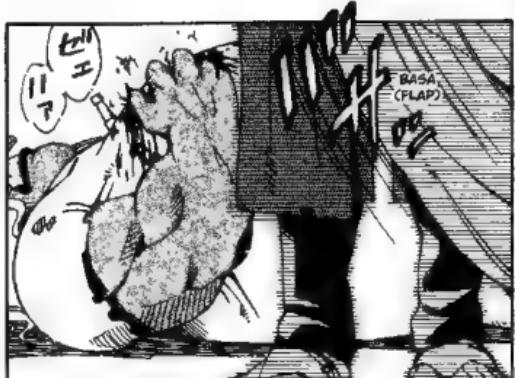
CHAPTER 24: BATTLE TO THE DEATH





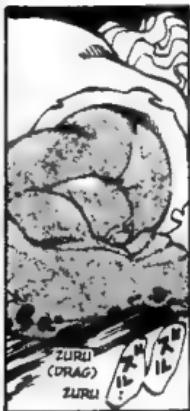






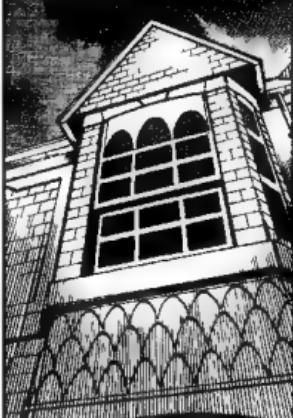
SFX: ZEE (WHEEZE); HAHA (HUFF)

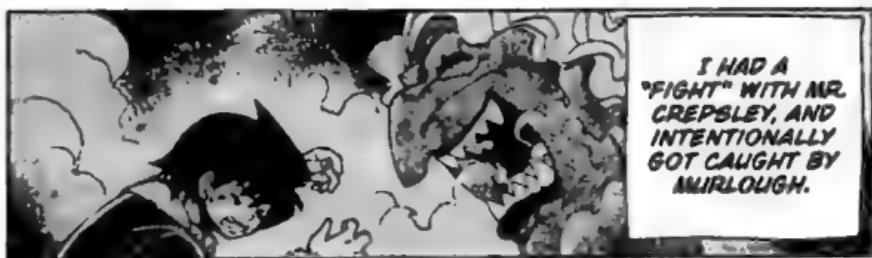




SPK. KUNI (POHO KUNI)









WE GOT THE HEMLOCKS INVOLVED IN A GAMBLE TO SAVE EVRA'S LIFE.

I STILL HAD TO CONVINCE HIM TO TAKE DEBBIE OVER EVRA.



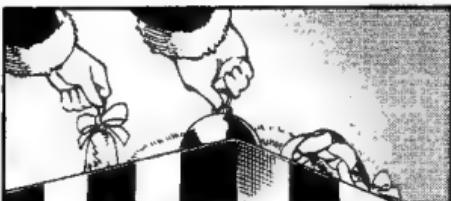
...BUT WE DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE.

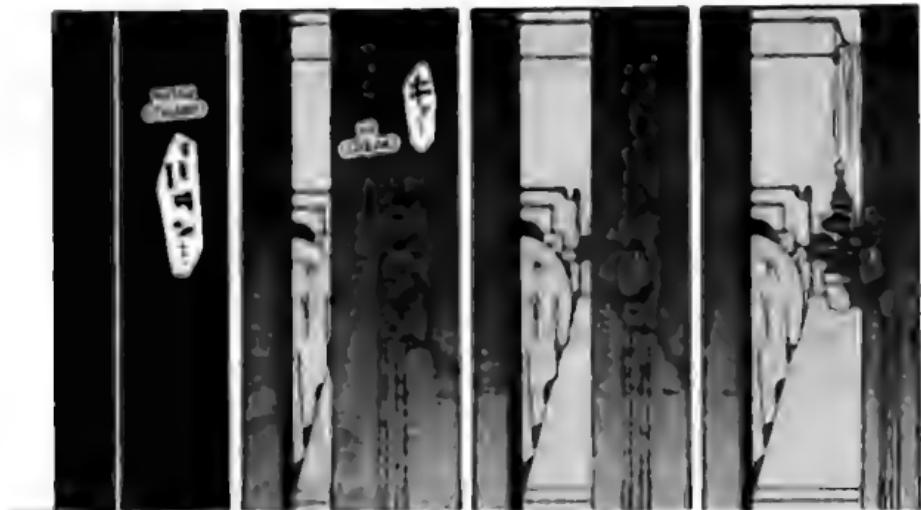
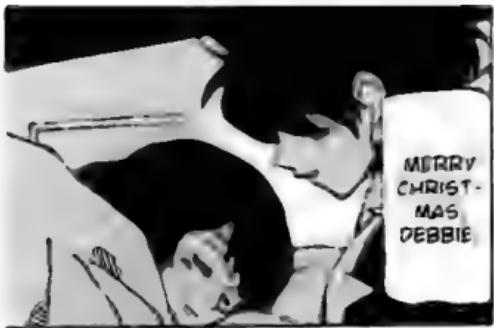


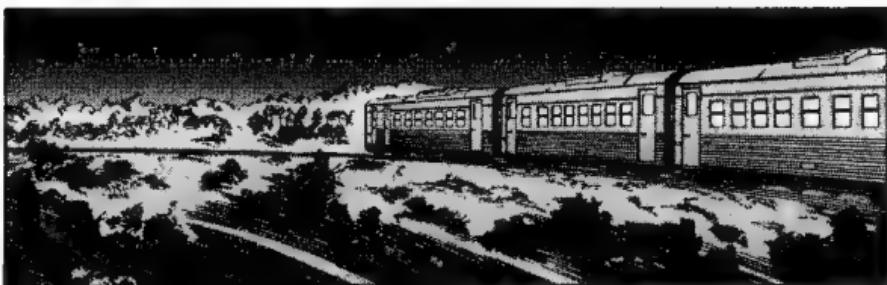
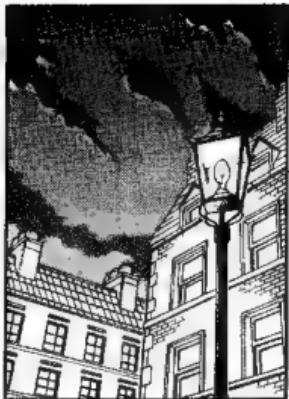
!!
!!
PASA (FLAP)





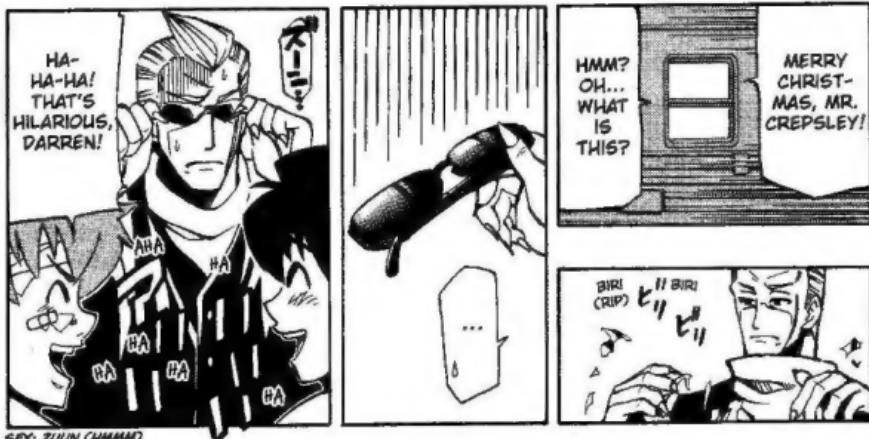
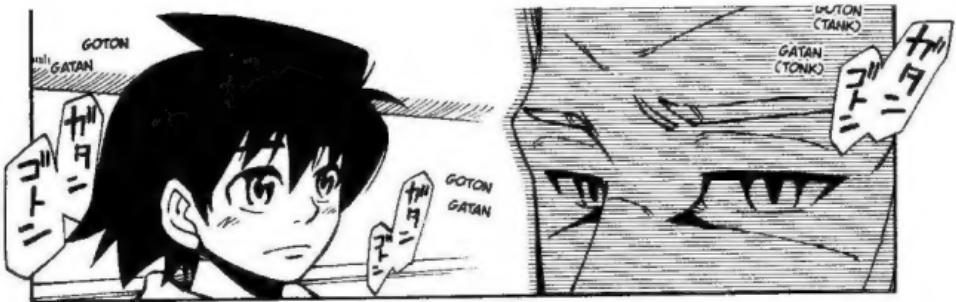






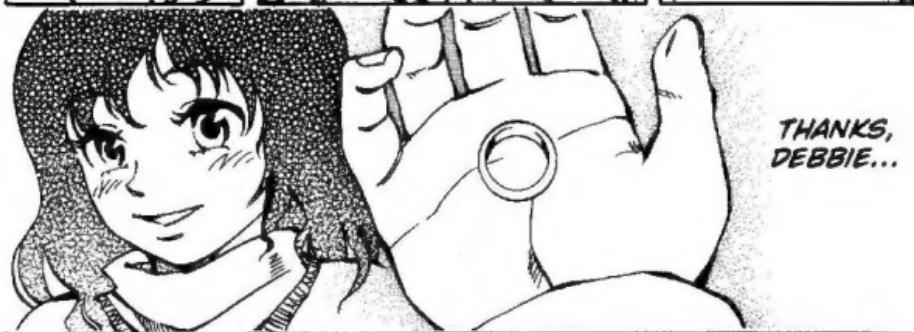






SFX: ZUIN CHIMMO





...AND
GOODBYE.

TUNNELS OF BLOOD - END

